This Annual Report of Safety Division reflects a great deal of activity for 1981, not only by the staff of the Division but also by Regional Staff. At the municipal level the Division enjoys a good working relationship with the local councils and, of course with fire chiefs and fire fighters.

Overall there is an improvement in the fire loss record over that of 1980 but the Government is concerned with the sharp increase in work related accident statistics. Every effort must be made to effect a decrease in the accident rate in the coming year.

New, innovative programs are now being developed which will provide information and education on work-related hazards and preventive measures to all N.W.T. workers in a readily understandable form. As this report indicates the occupational health and safety and public safety needs of the people of the N.W.T. are being seriously addressed. I am confident that all employers, employees and the general public will participate in a very active manner in developing a positive approach to work and public safety.

Honourable George Braden,
Minister, Department of
Justice and Public Services

Chief of Safety Comments:
To make safety a state of mind we must reach out to all ages in all areas of life; from the adult at work to the child in the playground. Well aware of this need, the Safety Division continues to expand its programs through the Fire Safety, Health and Safety and the Mechanical/Electrical Section 5.

Electrical and pressure vessel inspectors are continually monitoring and upgrading older installations to ensure the safety of all N.W.T. residents. The placement of Electrical Inspectors in Frobisher Bay and Hay River further adds to wiring safety for these regions, particularly in view of the 15% increase in electrical fires in 1981.

There were 11 Health and Safety presentations during the past year. The majority of these were for schools. These school presentations are an important part of the Safety Division's program, for the students are tomorrow's workforce and they must be encouraged to develop a sense of safety awareness during their formative years.

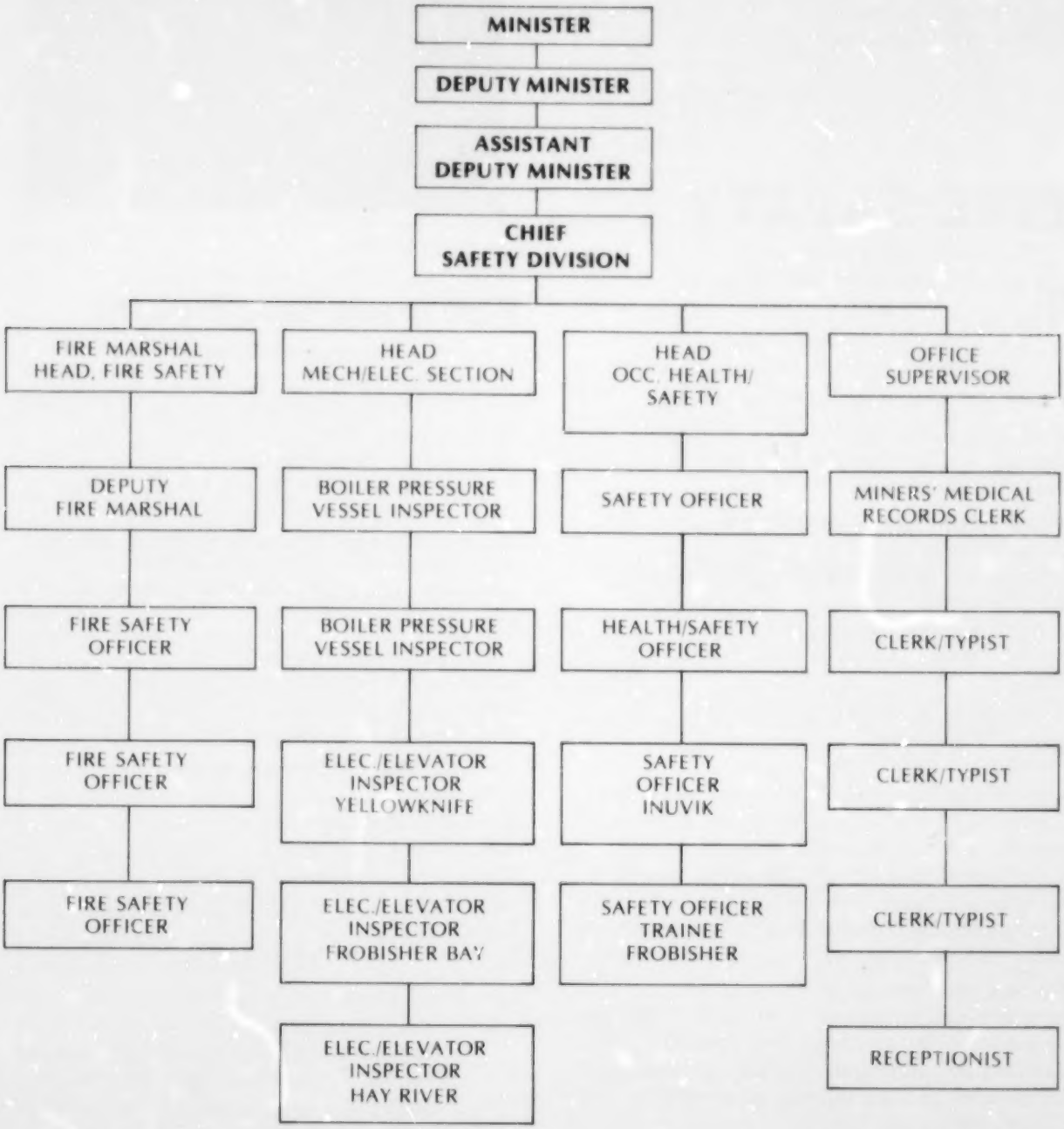
The number of fire deaths decreased from 16 in 1980 to 7 in 1981. We hope to decrease this number even further by continuing to increase fire safety awareness and training. Once again we gratefully acknowledge the vital role of the N.W.T. firefighters who continually risk their lives to protect others.

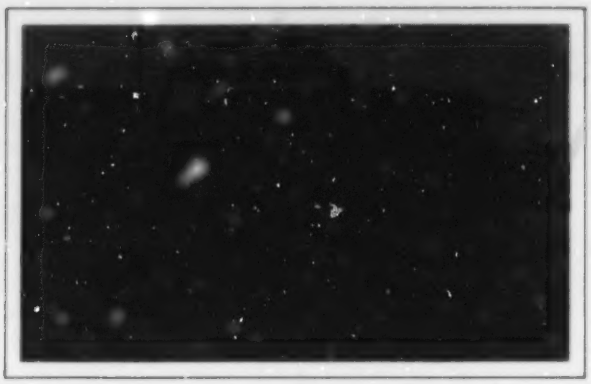
The goal of the Department of Justice and Public Services, Safety Division is to make safety a state of mind for all residents, thereby promoting safety awareness throughout the N.W.T.

Respectfully submitted,

R.A. Robinson

Safety Division Justice and Public Services





FIRE SAFETY

This report lists fire losses by community, occupancy and cause; with a regional breakdown. There is also a table showing fire deaths and injuries by cause, age and sex.

In order to upgrade the staff of the Fire Marshal's Office they attended the following courses and seminars:

- Provincial Advisory Committee on the National Building Code
- Association of Canadian Fire Marshals and Fire Commissioners
- Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs
- N.W.T. Association of Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters
- Transportation of Hazardous Goods
- Fire Investigation
- Industrial Safety Seminar

A disturbing aspect of the total fire loss is the number of fires of a suspicious nature. There were 15 fires of suspicious nature for a total dollar loss of $502,200.00. The dollar loss for these fires is down from 1980, but the number of fires has doubled. Fortunately there were no related deaths. There were 3 arson convictions.

The five year forecast of 1975 was not completely achieved but by the end of 1982 we hope to have it completed. This forecast included the building of fire halls, purchasing of fire vehicles and fire fighting equipment for the communities in the N.W.T.

Also included in the five year forecast were municipal fire alarms. This was not completed. This part has to coincide with NorthwesTel's installation of the required switchboards. It is hoped that this will be completed by 1983.

Fire truck distribution

Over the past five years fire protection in the communities has improved greatly. Previously, the only means of fighting fires was by the water delivery truck, wheeled and hand held fire extinguishers. Now with the cooperation of the Department of Public Works, the Department of Local Government and this office many communities have fire fighting vehicles which are properly equipped with hose, ladders, breathing apparatus, protective clothing and fire fighting tools.

When communities grow in size they are provided with larger fire fighting units. The smaller units are refitted and placed in smaller communities that require the equipment.

The communities receiving new fire vehicles in 1981 were:
Rae - Standard Fire Truck
Cape Dorset - Standard Fire Truck
Clyde River - Standard Fire Truck
Lake Harbour - Mini Pumper transferred from Cape Dorset
Grise Fiord - Dry Chemical Unit.

Training and inspection

INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS:	
1979	5,000	1979	8
1980	3,500 (this office & Local Assistants)	1980	7
1981	1,052 (this office & Local Assistants)	1981	14

TRAINING:	PLAN REVIEWS:	
	1981	169

By this office - 16 sessions
By Local Fire Departments - 324 sessions

Training was a major area of concern with this section. This office held 16 training sessions in the communities. These sessions are to train the volunteers in the proper use and maintenance of the vehicles and to train the Fire Chief to assist in public education, safety inspections and proper reporting procedures to the Fire Marshal.

The fire Safety Section provides a grant of $10,000.00 to the N.W.T. Association of Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters to hold a seminar for fire fighters from across the N.W.T. This seminar is held in a different community each year. In June 1981 it was held in Pine Point. Participation in this seminar is excellent with many of the communities sending at least one representative. These volunteers receive classroom lectures as well as practical training in the use of fire trucks, fire extinguishers, hose laying, etc.

When a community receives a new fire fighting vehicle, a Fire Safety Officer spends time in the community properly training the fire fighters in its operation and maintenance.

The *Local Assistants to the Fire Marshal* assist to a great extent in training and inspections. Local Assistants to the Fire Marshal conducted approximately 568 inspections of various buildings in the communities. Local Fire Departments also conducted approximately 324 training sessions.

This office visited 72 communities and carried out 126 inspections of public buildings and 358 inspections of domestic homes. 14 special investigations were carried out.

7 Fire Prevention Ordinance Orders were served to correct fire safety deficiencies in buildings.

169 Plans were reviewed to ensure that new buildings and retrofitted buildings conform to the following codes:
- National Building Code
- National Fire Code of Canada
- National Fire Prevention Association
- National Standards System covering Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada, Canadian Standards Association, Canadian Gas Association and Canadian General Standards Board
- N.W.T. Revised Ordinance Ch 5 Fire, P5 Petroleum, S1 Industrial Safety.

1981 showed an improvement over 1980 with regards to the number of deaths and injuries related to fires. Yellowknife in particular showed an improvement. There were no fire deaths in 1981 and only 5 minor injuries. A contributing factor in this is increased public awareness of safety hazards.

The majority of Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters in the N.W.T. are volunteers. Of the 51 communities in the N.W.T. Yellowknife is the only one with full time fire fighters as well as volunteer members. Yellowknife, Inuvik, Pine Point and Eskimo Point are the only communities with full time Fire Chiefs. The remaining 47 communities have volunteer Fire Chiefs as well as volunteer fire fighters.

Fire losses by region(total fires)

REGION	FORT SMITH	INUVIK	KITIKMEOT	KEEWATIN	BAFFIN	TOTALS
# FIRES	88	25	5	10	34	162
N.W.T.H.C. LOSSES	$ 88,400.00	$ 135,550.00	$128,000.00	$ 95,050.00	$534,400.00	$ 981,400.00
G.N.W.T. LOSSES	$ 228,200.00	NIL	NIL	$107,050.00	$ 5,323.75	$ 340,573.75
FEDERAL LOSSES	$ 26,000.00	$ 50,350.00	NIL	NIL	$ 700.00	$ 77,050.00
OTHER LOSSES	$1,499,438.30	$2,639,350.00	$ 500.00	$ 39,700.00	$430,655.00	$4,609,643.30
TOTAL $ LOSSES	$1,842,038.30	$2,825,250.00	$128,500.00	$241,800.00	$971,078.75	$6,008,667.05
DEATHS	NIL	1 woman	1 woman	NIL	2 women 3 children	4 women 3 children
INJURIES	4 men 1 woman 1 fire fighter	2 men 3 women	NIL	NIL	1 child	6 men 4 women 1 child 1 fire fighter

Fire losses by community

Community	Year	# Fires	Total
AKLAVIK	1979	2	$ 74,000.00
	1980	2	9,200.00
	1981	3	2,400.00
ARCTIC BAY	1979	*	*
	1980	2	9,500.00
	1981	2	25,005.00
BAKER LAKE	1979	2	251,100.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	25,000.00
BROUGHTON ISLAND	1979	2	28,361.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	*	*
CAMBRIDGE BAY	1979	6	117,500.00
	1980	4	39,100.00
	1981	3	72,500.00
CAPE DORSET	1979	2	75,000.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	2	70,100.00
CHESTERFIELD INLET	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	83,050.00
COPPERMINE	1979	4	210,060.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	55,500.00
CORAL HARBOUR	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	18,000.00
ESKIMO POINT	1979	2	5,200.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	24,000.00
FORT FRANKLIN	1979	2	4,900.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	*	*

Community	Year	# Fires	Total Loss
FORT GOOD HOPE	1979	*	*
	1980	1	70,000.00
	1981	2	13,100.00
FORT LIARD	1979	*	*
	1980	1	1,200.00
	1981	*	*
FORT NORMAN	1979	1	10,000.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	60,000.00
FORT PROVIDENCE	1979	1	70,000.00
	1980	2	7,500.00
	1981	*	*
FORT RESOLUTION	1979	1	70,000.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	5,000.00
FORT SIMPSON	1979	3	25,800.00
	1980	1	19,000.00
	1981	2	90,020.00
FORT SMITH	1979	6	117,655.00
	1980	7	410,400.00
	1981	7	278,900.00
FROBISHER BAY	1979	13	181,600.00
	1980	13	139,800.00
	1981	20	439,350.00
GJOA HAVEN	1979	*	*
	1980	1	70,000.00
	1981	*	*
HALL BEACH	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	100.00
HAY RIVER	1979	21	351,293.00
	1980	22	174,550.00
	1981	18	80,270.00

Fire losses by community

Community	Year	# Fires	Total Loss
HOLMAN ISLAND	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	500.00
INUVIK	1979	27	586,955.00
	1980	21	256,700.00
	1981	12	112,800.00
IGLOOLIK	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	200.00
LAKE HARBOUR	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	7,000.00
NAHANNI BUTTE	1979	2	17,000.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	*	*
NANISIVIK	1979	1	300.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	1,323.75
NORMAN WELLS	1979	4	226,750.00
	1980	5	687,650.00
	1981	3	30,150.00
PANGNIRTUNG	1979	1	50.00
	1980	1	349,999.00
	1981	*	*
PELLY BAY	1979	1	150,000.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	*	*
PINE POINT	1979	14	99,365.00
	1980	9	3,535,200.00
	1981	10	176,950.00
POND INLET	1979	2	105,000.00
	1980	2	13,000.00
	1981	4	5,000.00
RAE	1979	1	19,000.00
	1980	3	33,000.00
	1981	1	40,000.00
RANKIN INLET	1979	4	42,000.00
	1980	8	146,500.00
	1981	6	91,750.00
RESOLUTE BAY	1979	*	*
	1980	1	25,000.00
	1981	1	405,000.00
SANIKILUAQ	1979	*	*
	1980	1	70,000.00
	1981	1	18,000.00
SPENCE BAY	1979	*	*
	1980	1	54,000.00
	1981	*	*
TUKTOYAKTUK	1979	8	337,125.00
	1980	6	53,050.00
	1981	2	50,300.00
TUNGSTEN	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	915.00
YELLOWKNIFE	1979	61	743,535.00
	1980	28	438,443.47
	1981	39	551,933.30
UNSETTLED	1979	1	30,000.00
	1980	7	150,500.00
	1981	11	3,174,550.00
TOTALS	1979	195	3,859,549.00
	1980	149	6,754,292.47
	1981	162	6,008,667.05

Occupancy group classifications

Type of Occupancy	Year	# Fires	Total Loss
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES	1979	118	$2,198,513.00
	1980	100	1,754,749.00
	1981	85	1,527,085.77
INSTITUTIONAL PROPERTIES	1979	5	101,000.00
	1980	5	3,875,000.00
	1981	3	25,100.00
ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS	1979	5	17,568.00
	1980	2	15,700.00
	1981	5	34,300.00
MANUFACTURING PROPERTIES	1979	9	216,551.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	*	*
MERCANTILE PROPERTIES	1979	11	464,907.00
	1980	16	958,350.00
	1981	9	636,120.00
MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES	1979	47	767,760.00
	1980	28	166,193.47
	1981	29	2,906,605.00
VEHICLES	1980	31	879,456.28

Fire deaths and injuries

DEATHS

Causes of deaths:	Men	Women	Children	Total
- misuse of flammable liquids		1	2	3
- carelessness - smoking materials		1	1	2
- furnace malfunction		1		1
- woodstove		1		1
TOTAL	0	4	3	7

INJURIES

Cause of injuries:	Men	Women	Children	Total
- electrical	2			2
- food on stove	1			1
- woodstove	2	1		3
- furnace malfunction	1	1		2
- electric heater			1	1
- cigarette	1	1		2
- fire fighter on duty	1			1
TOTAL	8	3	1	12

1 woman succumbed to injuries received in a fire which was caused by furnace malfunction in 1980.

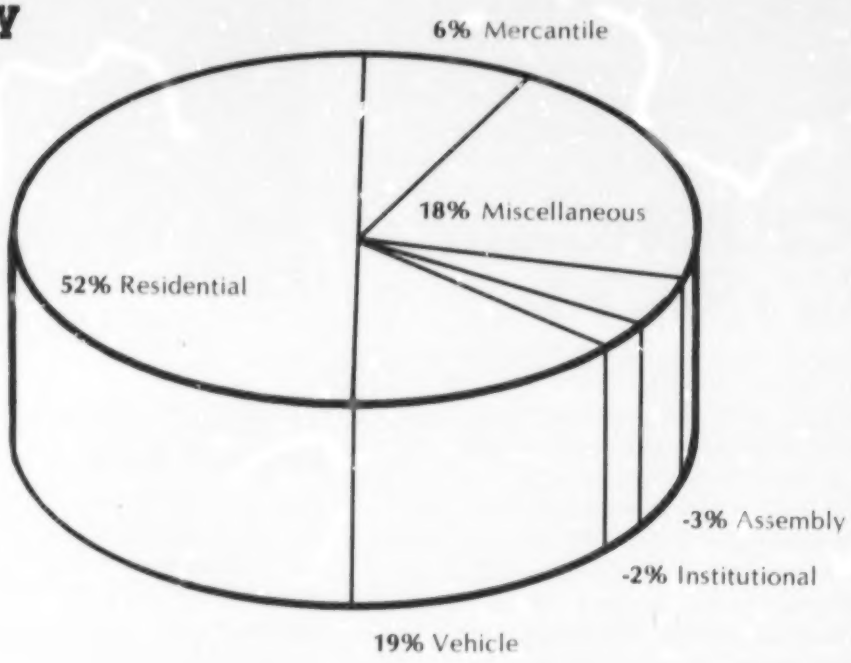
Causes of fires

Listing as to cause of fire	Year	# Fires	Total Loss
HEATING			
Stoves, Furnaces, Boilers	1979	26	$ 404,940.00
	1980	16	879,100.00
	1981	19	145,820.00
Solid Fuel	1979	4	39,020.00
	1980	4	43,000.00
	1981	3	1,120.00
Oil Fired	1979	9	156,315.00
	1980	10	175,900.00
	1981	14	118,700.00
Gas Fired	1979	13	209,605.00
	1980	2	660,200.00
	1981	2	26,000.00
Defective and overheated chimneys and flues	1979	2	6,455.00
	1980	2	22,200.00
	1981	2	18,200.00
Hot ashes, coals, open fires	1979	2	2,500.00
	1980	1	175,000.00
	1981	*	*
ELECTRICAL WIRING AND APPLIANCES	1979	39	675,318.00
	1980	27	564,650.00
	1981	21	128,070.00
SMOKING MATERIALS			
Matches	1979	20	267,150.00
	1980	21	175,750.00
	1981	20	556,478.75
Smoker's Carelessness	1979	38	626,685.00
	1980	17	101,700.00
	1981	27	719,600.00
PETROLEUM AND PRODUCTS	1979	13	427,500.00
	1980	12	100,050.00
	1981	14	266,850.00
EXPOSURE	1979	1	250.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	4	504,356.28
SUSPICIOUS NATURE	1979	5	207,109.00
	1980	7	3,867,600.00
	1981	15	502,200.00
MISCELLANEOUS			
Lighting	1979	*	*
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	500.00
Lights, other than electrical	1979	3	20,000.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	1	200.00
Spontaneous ignition	1979	14	91,160.00
	1980	*	*
	1981	*	*
Miscellaneous	1979	7	105,110.00
	1980	24	158,693.47
	1981	21	2,724,042.02
UNKNOWN	1979	25	932,074.00
	1980	22	709,999.00
	1981	17	442,350.00

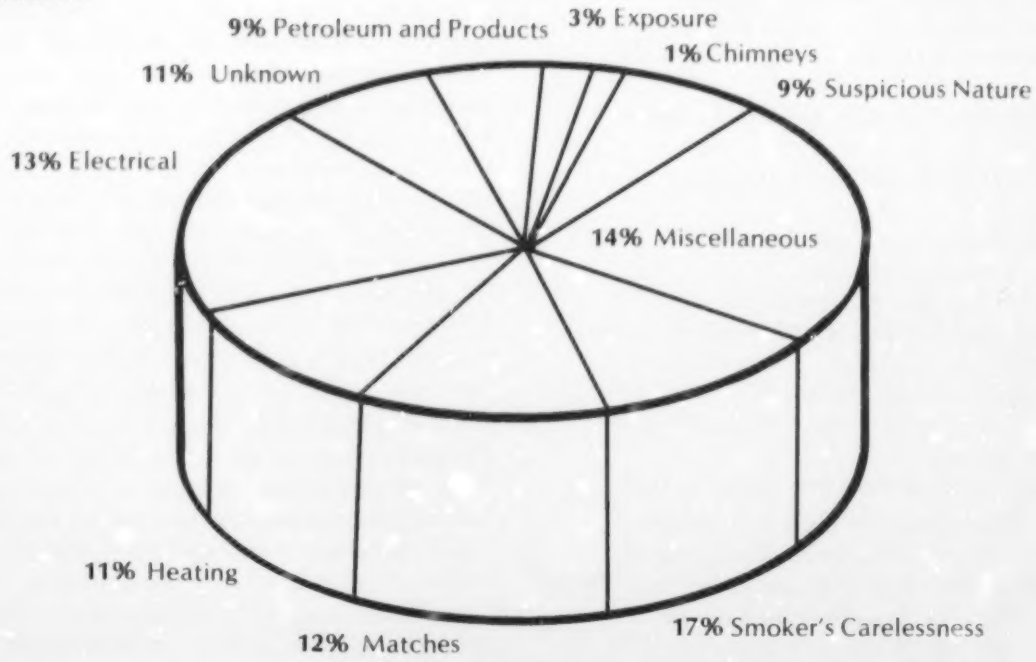
Large fire losses

Location	# Fires	Total Loss
1979		
BAKER LAKE	1	$ 250,000.00
FORT SMITH	1	100,000.00
HAY RIVER	2	150,000.00
INUVIK	1	400,000.00
YELLOWKNIFE	2	211,101.00
1980		
FORT GOOD HOPE	1	70,000.00
FORT SMITH	2	350,000.00
FROBISHER BAY	1	75,000.00
INUVIK	1	60,000.00
PANGNIRTUNG	1	349,999.00
PINE POINT	1	3,500,000.00
RANKIN INLET	2	155,000.00
UNSETTLED	1	120,000.00
YELLOWKNIFE	1	70,000.00
1981		
CAMBRIDGE BAY	1	$ 70,000.00
CAPE DORSET	1	70,000.00
CHESTERFIELD INLET	1	83,050.00
COPPERMINE	1	55,500.00
FORT NORMAN	1	60,000.00
FORT SIMPSON	1	90,000.00
FORT SMITH	2	257,000.00
FROBISHER BAY	4	430,000.00
INUVIK	1	50,000.00
PINE POINT	2	150,000.00
RESOLUTE BAY	1	405,000.00
TUKTOYAKTUK	1	50,000.00
UNSETTLED	4	3,141,500.00
YELLOWKNIFE	2	231,000.00

Occupancy



Causes



MECHANICAL/ ELECTRICAL

The Mechanical/Electrical Section implements the Electrical Protection and Boilers and Pressure Vessels Ordinances and their Regulations. This involves reviewing plans and designs to ensure conformity with relevant codes and standards; examining and certifying persons and equipment. A major aspect of this Section's work entails inspections of installations and investigations of accidents and fires.

To keep abreast of the ever changing technologies and codes, the Section has memberships and affiliations with the following:

- Advisory Council on Electrical Safety
- Association of Chief Inspectors of Canada, Boiler, Electrical, Elevator
- Committee on Canadian Electrical Code Part 1 and 2
- International Association of Electrical Inspectors
- C.S.A. B149 Elevator Code Committee
- Canadian Gas Association
- Interprovincial Gas Advisory Council
- National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors
- Power Engineers Review Board
- C.S.A. B51 Code Committee on Boilers and Pressure Vessels
- C.S.A. B52 Code Committee on Refrigeration

Though all the meetings are not attended regularly due to costs and human resources, we attend those we are able to and, we rely on the minutes and correspondence to keep us informed on those we cannot attend.

Annual electrical report 1981

The Electrical function of the Mechanical/-Electrical Section is to ensure a safe electrical environment for the citizens of the N.W.T., at home, at work and at leisure. Many aspects of electrical safety involve personal commitment and this role is best fulfilled through education, safety standards development and inspection services. The safety of freight and passenger elevators is assured by initial inspections before a certificate is issued for its use. Periodic inspections ensure that all installations are maintained in a safe condition, and in accordance with applicable regulations. Special inspections are also promptly conducted in response to public complaints regarding the operation or condition of any elevating device. An Electrical Seminar is planned for 1982 to update installers of electrical equipment as to the changes in the latest edition of the Canadian Electrical Code.

We also have been involved in various Safety Seminars in the N.W.T. and we have addressed Adult Education groups.

The Isolated Community Wireman program was implemented during the year with the result that five men from various communities are now registered as electrical workers. There are now three electrical inspectors on staff. One in Yellowknife, one in Hay River and the other in Rankin Inlet. The inspector in Rankin Inlet will be located in Frobisher Bay in July of 1982. It is anticipated that better control over the quality of work will be the result of the inspectors working and living in the regions.

Program Review to December 1981

	Electrical Permits Issued	Registered Electricians	Electrical Inspections	Elevator Inspections	Plan Reviews
1979	970	—	1362	48	86
1980	895	87	1535	32	94
1981	1254	96	1485	17	124

Total Revenue - $77,692.00

Annual mechanical report 1981

"Boiler Explosion Kills Five", "Exploding Hot Water Tank Kills Six in School Cafeteria", "Death Toll Rises to Five in Mill Blast". Headlines like these appear from time to time in our newspapers and on television. They cause a brief flurry and are soon forgotten by almost everyone.

In the Northwest Territories, we have been fortunate in that we have not had such incidents as yet. Boiler Inspectors from the Mechanical Section have been partly responsible for this good fortune.

In an ongoing program of inspections, potential safety hazards are being brought continually to owners' attention with orders to repair.

There have been over four thousand boilers and pressure vessels registered with Mechanical Section. Some of these have been removed from service and about half of the remaining ones were inspected in the past year. Repair orders were issued for those not in proper operating condition and fourteen were ordered condemned.

Tied in with the inspection program are two certification programs; one for stationary engineers and one for pressure welders. These are administered by the Mechanical Section to ensure that those who operate boilers and those who repair them are properly trained and qualified for their work.

Inspectors also are involved in reviewing designs for new boilers and pressure vessels and building plans to ensure that the vessels are designed and installed according to the appropriate codes.

To cope with the increasing number of installations and to cover installations owned by the Federal Government, a second inspector was added during the year. This gives the Section much better coverage of the Territories. It should be possible during the coming year to visit every community rather than having to space the visits out over two or three years.

The added manpower has also allowed the Mechanical Section to contribute to public safety in another way, by participating in an education program with other sections in Safety Division. The inspectors have been involved in Safety Seminars across the Territories. They have increased the awareness of boiler safety in such groups as Fire Departments, Housing Associations and various employee groups. There have been training courses developed and presented to boiler operators.

Finally, in view of the increased use of propane and natural gas in the Territories as the Off-Oil Program continues, the Section has been involved in developing a set of gas protection regulations to promote safe installation and use of these alternate fuels.

Program Review to December 31, 1981

BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS ORDINANCE

	Registered	Inspected	Serious Hazards Noted	Condemned	Engineer's Exams	Pressure Welders	Designs Registered
Jan 1/79 - Dec 31/79	2659	758	N/A	N/A	67	7	54
Jan 1/80 - Dec 31/80	3413	1046	13	5	49	19	128
Jan 1/81 - Dec 31/81	3370	1525	65	14	77	17	90

Revenue

Annual Registration of Boilers and Pressure Vessels	$33,701.00
Engineer's Exams	957.00
Welder's Exams	310.00
Design Registration	3,110.00
Federal Contract	50,000
	$88,078.00

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SECTION

INTRODUCTION

As the objectives and programs for the Occupational Health and Industrial Safety Sections were based on the same goals and concerns these Sections joined in December, 1981 to become the "Occupational Health and Safety Section". The report on the year's activities is therefore a combined one.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Industrial Safety Section — 1981 Structure

This section is responsible for the administration of the Safety Ordinance and its Regulations.

The Section Head is appointed as a Deputy Inspector under the Explosives Ordinance, and represents the Government of the Northwest Territories on Federal and interprovincial committees and bodies dealing with Industrial Safety.

Safety Officers are appointed inspectors under the Petroleum Products Ordinance as well.

In 1981, the Industrial Safety Section staff consisted of the Section Head and one Safety Officer. As Safety Officers they visited workplaces throughout the Northwest Territories to monitor the work conditions and assess the work practices. During the visits, information and guidance was supplied to employers and workers in an attempt to encourage an atmosphere of willing compliance with the Regulations and Standards. A prime responsibility of this Section is to meet the needs of workers for health and safety education.

Occupational Health Section — 1981 Structure

This Section was responsible for the administration of the occupational health aspects of the Safety Ordinance and its Regulations.

The Section Head was appointed as a Safety Officer under the Safety Ordinance and as Registrar of Miners' Medical Certificates under the Mining Safety Ordinance.

The Section Head represented the Territorial Government on Federal and Interprovincial committees and bodies dealing with Occupational Health and Safety. Programs are developed to provide an informational, educational and advisory service to all employers and workers.

In 1981 the staff consisted of the Section Head, a contracted Medical Advisor and an x-ray file clerk.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES — LOOKING AHEAD

The Occupational Health and Safety program aims to promote and maintain the highest possible level of health and safety among workers upon whom the economic and social well-being of a community depends. With this goal as an incentive our programs will be based on the needs of the workers and the employers as each of these needs are identified. In 1982 closer communication is planned with all organizations in N.W.T. communities where there might be a concern for the health and safety of workers.

A Northern Communications Project is planned for 1982. It will involve the Canadian Centre for Occupational health and Safety (CCOHS). A wide review, based on the possible workplace hazards of specific occupations, is underway to identify information needs of workers in the Northwest Territories. In consultation with community representatives, all occupations will be considered including hunting and trapping.

MAJOR PROJECTS 1981

- Completion of Occupational Health Amendments to Safety Regulations for 1982 approval
- Initiation of active regional worksite health and safety committees
- Accident investigation reporting and response mechanism for all serious and fatal accidents
- Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Computer information data base; International Labor Organization (ILO) health and safety reports researched. Development of a "user" committee consisting of management, labor and Government Representatives
- N.W.T. School Safety Presentations to Industrial Arts Classes
- Urea Formaldehyde foam insulation testing and formaldehyde gas monitoring program
- Chemical inventory, *health and safety data sheets* for specific occupations
- *Hazard alert and safety bulletin* development to employers and workers specific to occupations and work practices
- Occupational Health and Safety Seminar -Joint W.C.B. and Safety Division hosted in Yellowknife, June, 1981
- Workers' Health and Safety Workshop -Inuvik, November, 1981.

SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS 1981

The Occupational Health and Safety Section is committed to promote "safety and health as a state of mind". All projects outlined in 1981 were primarily concerned with encouraging the development of employers' and workers' awareness for occupational health and safety. Sincere effort has been placed on the availability of workplace health and safety information at the Safety Division. The concept of education and advisory services available to all employers and workers reflects the concern of the Safety Division for the identification and elimination of possible hazards in the workplace.

The programs established are to promote the understanding of the workplace by the average worker.

In 1981 a new program was begun by the Industrial Safety Section. Safety presentations to the Industrial Arts Classes at N.W.T. schools have been most successful. 100 students in four schools have been involved in the discussions and films regarding the basic concepts of workers' health and safety. The Safety Division firmly believes that a safety attitude must begin at an early age. An essay contest for all N.W.T. schools is planned for Child Safety Week in May, 1982. School programs were presented in Pine Point, Frobisher Bay, Hay River and Inuvik.

In June, 1981, an Occupational Health and Safety Seminar was held in Yellowknife, N.W.T., co-hosted by the Safety Division and Workers' Compensation Board. This was a most successful seminar with guest speakers addressing topics such as:

- construction in the workplace - presented by Poole Construction
- radiation in the workplace
- workers' medical health risks - presented by Alberta Workers' Health and Safety
- noise hazards - hearing loss
- alcohol in the workplace - presented by Northern Addiction Services, Yellowknife

Those attending the conference had an opportunity to benefit from the specific expertise of each speaker. There was an attendance of 120 people over 2 days.

In November 1981, a Safety Division workshop was held in Inuvik, N.W.T. The theme was "Make Safety a State of Mind". Representatives from the Safety Division's Fire Safety, Mechanical/Electrical and Occupational Health and Safety Sections participated in the sessions. A St. John Ambulance Standard First Aid Course was also given. Representatives of Levitt Safety Supply Company and the N.W.T. Workers' Compensation Board were special guests.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SECTION STATISTICS FOR 1981

Settlements Visited	25
Inspections	208
Orders Written (deficiencies)	238
Stop Work Orders	1
Safety Committees Reporting	9
Complaints Requiring Investigation	85
Requests for Information Requiring Investigation	100
Canadian Center for Occupational Health and Safety Computer Searches - Health/Safety Reports	150
Laboratory Analysis Sent Out	52
Safety Seminars and Workshops given in N.W.T.	2
Safety Awareness - School Presentations given	10

REGISTRAR MINERS' MEDICALS — STATISTICS — 1981 — N.W.T. MINING SAFETY ORDINANCE

Miners' Medical Certificates Issued	3700
Medical X-rays Processed and Filed	2833

ACCIDENT STATISTICS

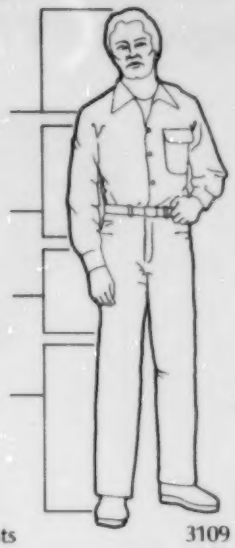
The percentages shown indicate the occurrence of accidents in the Northwest Territories in 1981. The diagram illustrates the parts of the body and the percentage of occurrence of injury to that area of the body. Hard hats, goggles, gloves, safety shoes and normal working clothing must be worn where required on the job. These are normal requirements for safe working conditions and can greatly reduce and protect against worker injury. In 1981, there were 8 fatalities and 10% of all accidents reported were of a serious nature. A serious injury type would include fractures of major bones, loss of sight of an eye, internal hemorrhage, third degree burns, amputation, unconsciousness and injury resulting in paralysis. The accident statistics as prepared by the Workers' Compensation Board outline the number of accidents in each of the Regions since 1977.

The Occupational Health and Safety Section is very concerned about the occurrence of accidents in the N.W.T. and greater emphasis is being placed on accident investigations to assist employers and workers in the prevention and reduction of injuries.

1981 Accidents

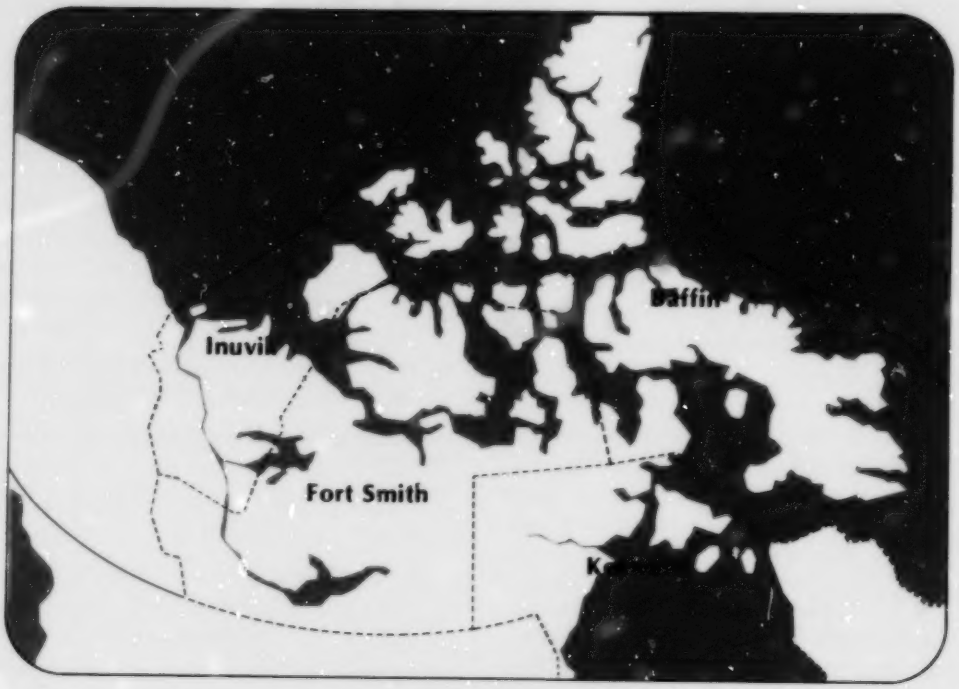
Percentage of Total

3%	Head	
3%	Ears	11%
1%	Eyes	
4%	Face	
1%	Neck	
11%	Chest	26%
14%	Back	
9.5%	Arms	
9%	Hands	33.5%
15%	Fingers	
10%	Legs	
5%	Feet	20%
4%	Ankles	
1%	Toes	
9%	Misc.	
.5%	Not Complete	9.5%



1981 Reported Industrial Accidents	3109
1981 Fatal Accidents	8
1981 Serious Accidents by Definition	323 (10% of Total)

Comparison of reported accidents by geographical regions 1977-1981



	1981	1980	1979
Fort Smith Region	2037	1602	1534
Inuvik Region	584	556	466
Baffin Region	312	332	301
Keewatin Region	90	60	53
Unclassified Locations	86	76	40
TOTAL	3109	2626	2394